

Minutes for Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee Meeting
October 15th, 2010 from 9:00am-12:00pm (Noon)

In Attendance: Peyton Robertson, Tom O'Connell, Jack Travelstead, Bryan King, A.C. Carpenter, Bruce Vogt, Derek Orner, Nancy Butowski, Jon Kramer, Howard Townsend, Mike Fritz, Steve Meyers, Adam Davis

Presentations

1.) Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) Presentation (20min + 10min Q&A)

- Handout:
 - *EPA TMDL ppt for MD 10-13.pptx*
 - *MDE_WIP ppt for Oct13.PPT*
- Mike Fritz presented background information of the WIPs.
 - The WIPs are the states' (and district's) individual plans for meeting the EPA enforced TMDL's nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations
- Best ways for Fisheries GIT to get involved?
 - Provide formal comments and get engaged at the state level
 - ExComm members have not tried to influence the WIPs yet
 - The Fisheries GIT has additional leverage in fact that a healthy watershed is more than just water quality
 - The Fisheries GIT can explain the tangible benefits of what a restored Chesapeake Bay *should* look like (eg healthy fisheries resources)

2.) Ecosystem Modeling Runs to Explore Menhaden Policy (15min + 5-10min Q&A)

- Handout: *CBFEM Menhaden Runs_GIT_Townsend_100710.pdf*
- Howard Townsend presented his preliminary Menhaden model runs for the ASMFC meeting
 - The model presently uses 2002 data and needs to be updated with current stock assessments
 - These updates will feed back to ASMFC technical committee
 - The current management goal for Menhaden is a 10% MSP, but the model outputs show decreases in both striped bass and adult menhaden as a result
 - Recalibration of the model will probably not result in such a significant loss
 - a. Updates to the model are expected to take approximately six months, so a finished model output will not be available for the November ASMFC management board meeting

Business: (Decisional)

3.) FY2011 Fisheries Science Program Competitive Solicitation Process

- Handout: *FY2011 Fisheries Science Program Competitive Solicitation Process 092910.pdf*

- Initiated an open transparent process to solicit research needs from the bay scientific and management community
- Derek Orner has emailed the full GIT, and will be calling to talk about ideas/projects and to answer any remaining questions
- **Action Items:** Send out memo with dates
 - Completed list of research topics by end of October or beginning of November
 - FFO must be submitted by mid-Nov. for publication by Dec./Jan.

4.) Sustainable Fisheries GIT Workplan

- Handout: *Sustainable Fisheries GIT Workplan (v7).pdf*
- GIT ExComm agreed to the workplan in concept. Workplan priorities are oysters, blue catfish, blue crab, and landuse communication pathways.
- MD and VA see a critical need to track and evaluate GIT performance
- Blue Catfish
 - Process should be initiated at December full GIT meeting
 - Groups should synthesize science and present to full GIT
 - STAC should be the rapid response team for GIT science needs; FEW will concentrate on longer-term EBFM goals
 - John Kramer and the FEW supports this idea
- **Action Item:** GIT staff will reach out to STAC to develop a scientific synthesis for blue catfish to be presented at the December meeting

5.) Establishing an Oyster Team

- Handout: *Oyster Restoration Success Metrics and Monitoring protocols 092410.pdf*
- GIT agreed to need for putting together a consistent method for evaluating oyster success (unified baywide metrics)
- Consensus was that a smaller team (~6 members including MD DNR, VMRC, NOAA, USACE) may be more effective
 - Need to develop obtainable goals and produce meaningful results
 - **Action:** Revise Oyster Restoration Success Metrics and Monitoring protocols team membership and circulate to the GIT ExComm for approval. Establish the team and first meeting.

Bay Program Tasks

6.) Indicator Changes for STAR

- Handouts:
 - *CrabAbundanceRecommendations2010BBforSTAR_bv.pdf*
 - *FisheriesManagementIndicesOptionsRecommendations2010BBforSTARBV.pdf*
- Blue Crab Abundance Indicator: indicator change was to use the control rule
- Fisheries Management Effort Indices: Remove with possibility for replacement
- **Action Item:** Revise documents making corrections mentioned at meeting- Completed.

7.) Recommendations for ChesapeakeStat

- Top three topic areas that are unlikely to change significantly with any changes to our goals
 - 1.) Oysters (tributary specific)
 - 2.) Juvenile Reproduction Indices
 - 3.) YOY for Striped Bass

Future Topics

8.) Cownose Rays

- Handout: *cownose+ray+group+letter+VA+8+10[1].pdf*
- Action Item: Distribute 1957 Cownose Ray research paper

Administrative

9.) Future Executive Committee Meetings

- Regular ExComm meetings will now be scheduled for the third Monday of the month from 1:00pm-3:00pm
 - Next Meeting: November 15th from 1:00pm-3:00pm

Updates

10.) The December Full GIT meeting is scheduled for December 2nd at William & Mary Alumni House in Leadership Hall

- Looking into reserving December 1st as well (may need a different location)
- Possible Agenda Items:
 - Blue Catfish Policy
 - GIT-FEW Come Together (Facilitated)
 - Fisheries Science and Monitoring
 - Oysters
 - Blue Crab Catch Shares
 - Oyster Data Tool (Howard Townsend)